FAMOUS 1950s EC COMICS!

PANIC

EC AN ENTERTAINING COMICS

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EC AN ENTERTAINING COMICS

NO. 10
JUNE

HANDLE WITH CARE

FRAGILE

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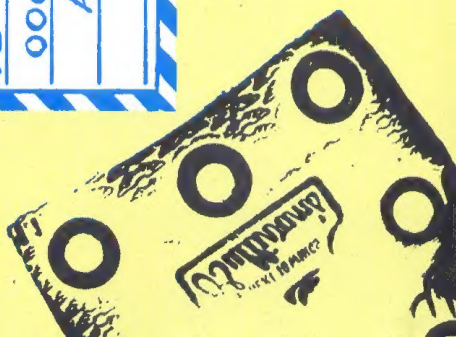

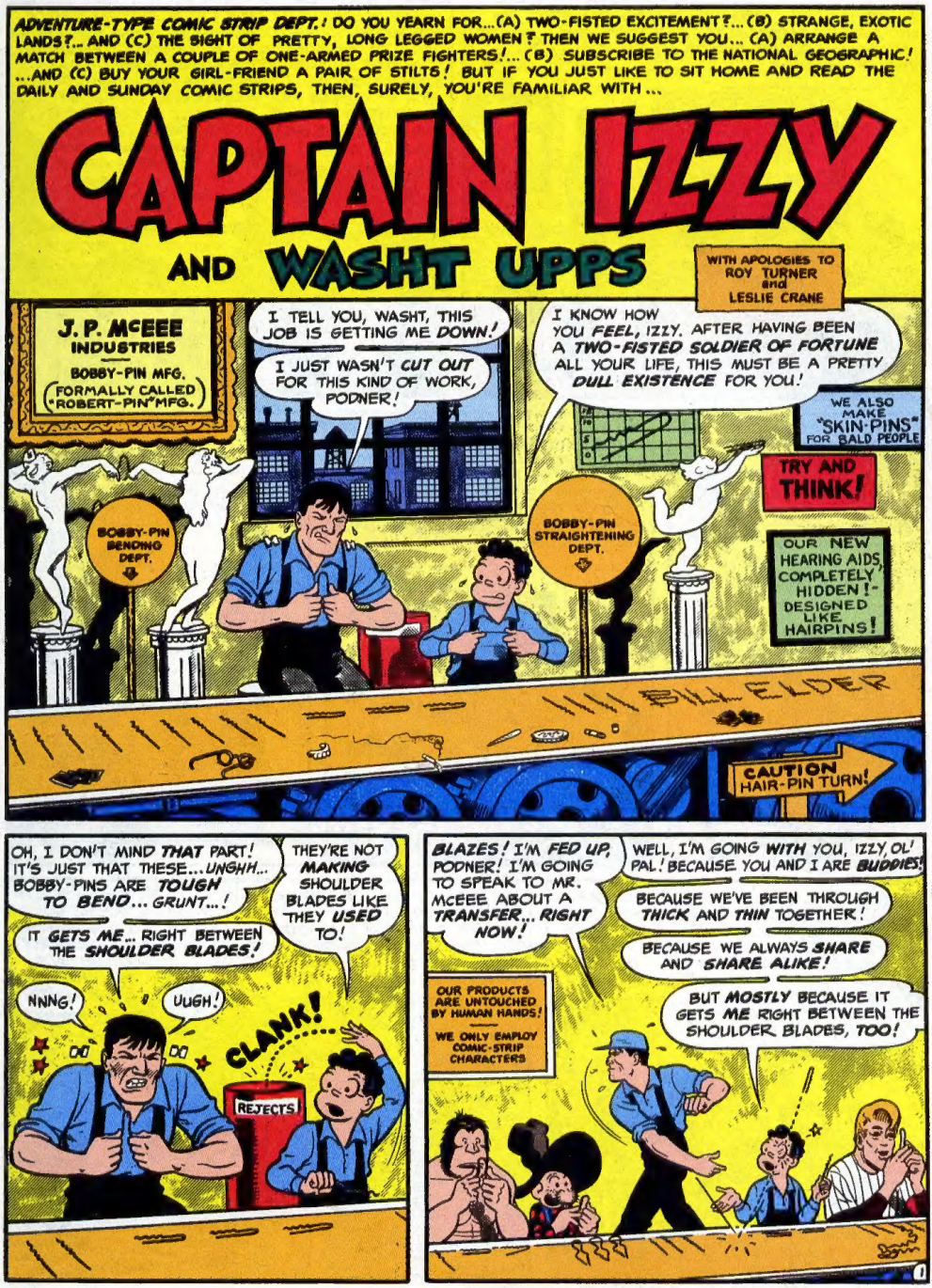
ADVENTURE-TYPE COMIC STRIP DEPT.! DO YOU YEARN FOR... (A) TWO-FISTED EXCITEMENT?... (B) STRANGE, EXOTIC LANDS?... AND (C) THE SIGHT OF PRETTY, LONG LEGGED WOMEN? THEN WE SUGGEST YOU... (A) ARRANGE A MATCH BETWEEN A COUPLE OF ONE-ARMED PRIZE FIGHTERS!... (B) SUBSCRIBE TO THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC! ...AND (C) BUY YOUR GIRL-FRIEND A PAIR OF STILTS! BUT IF YOU JUST LIKE TO SIT HOME AND READ THE DAILY AND SUNDAY COMIC STRIPS, THEN, SURELY, YOU'RE FAMILIAR WITH ...
CAPTAIN IZZY
AND WASHT UPPS
WITH APOLOGIES TO ROY TURNER and LESLIE CRANE
J. P. McEEE INDUSTRIES
BOBBY-PIN MFG.
(FORMALLY CALLED "ROBERT-PIN" MFG.)
I TELL YOU, WASHT, THIS JOB IS GETTING ME DOWN!
I JUST WASN'T CUT OUT FOR THIS KIND OF WORK, PODNER!
I KNOW HOW YOU FEEL, IZZY. AFTER HAVING BEEN A TWO-FISTED SOLDIER OF FORTUNE ALL YOUR LIFE, THIS MUST BE A PRETTY DULL EXISTENCE FOR YOU!
WE ALSO MAKE "SKIN-PINS" FOR BALD PEOPLE
TRY AND THINK!
BOBBY-PIN BENDING DEPT.
BOBBY-PIN STRAIGHTENING DEPT.
OUR NEW HEARING AIDS, COMPLETELY HIDDEN! - DESIGNED LIKE HAIRPINS!
BILL ELDER
CAUTION HAIR-PIN TURN!
OH, I DON'T MIND THAT PART! IT'S JUST THAT THESE... UNGHH... BOBBY-PINS ARE TOUGH TO BEND... GRUNT...!
THEY'RE NOT MAKING SHOULDER BLADES LIKE THEY USED TO!
IT GETS ME... RIGHT BETWEEN THE SHOULDER BLADES!
NNNG!
UUGH!
CLANK!
REJECTS
BLAZES! I'M FED UP, PODNER! I'M GOING TO SPEAK TO MR. McEEE ABOUT A TRANSFER... RIGHT NOW!
WELL, I'M GOING WITH YOU, IZZY, OL' PAL! BECAUSE YOU AND I ARE BUDDIES!
BECAUSE WE'VE BEEN THROUGH THICK AND THIN TOGETHER!
BECAUSE WE ALWAYS SHARE AND SHARE ALIKE!
BUT MOSTLY BECAUSE IT GETS ME RIGHT BETWEEN THE SHOULDER BLADES, TOO!
OUR PRODUCTS ARE UNTOUCHED BY HUMAN HANDS!
WE ONLY EMPLOY COMIC-STRIP CHARACTERS

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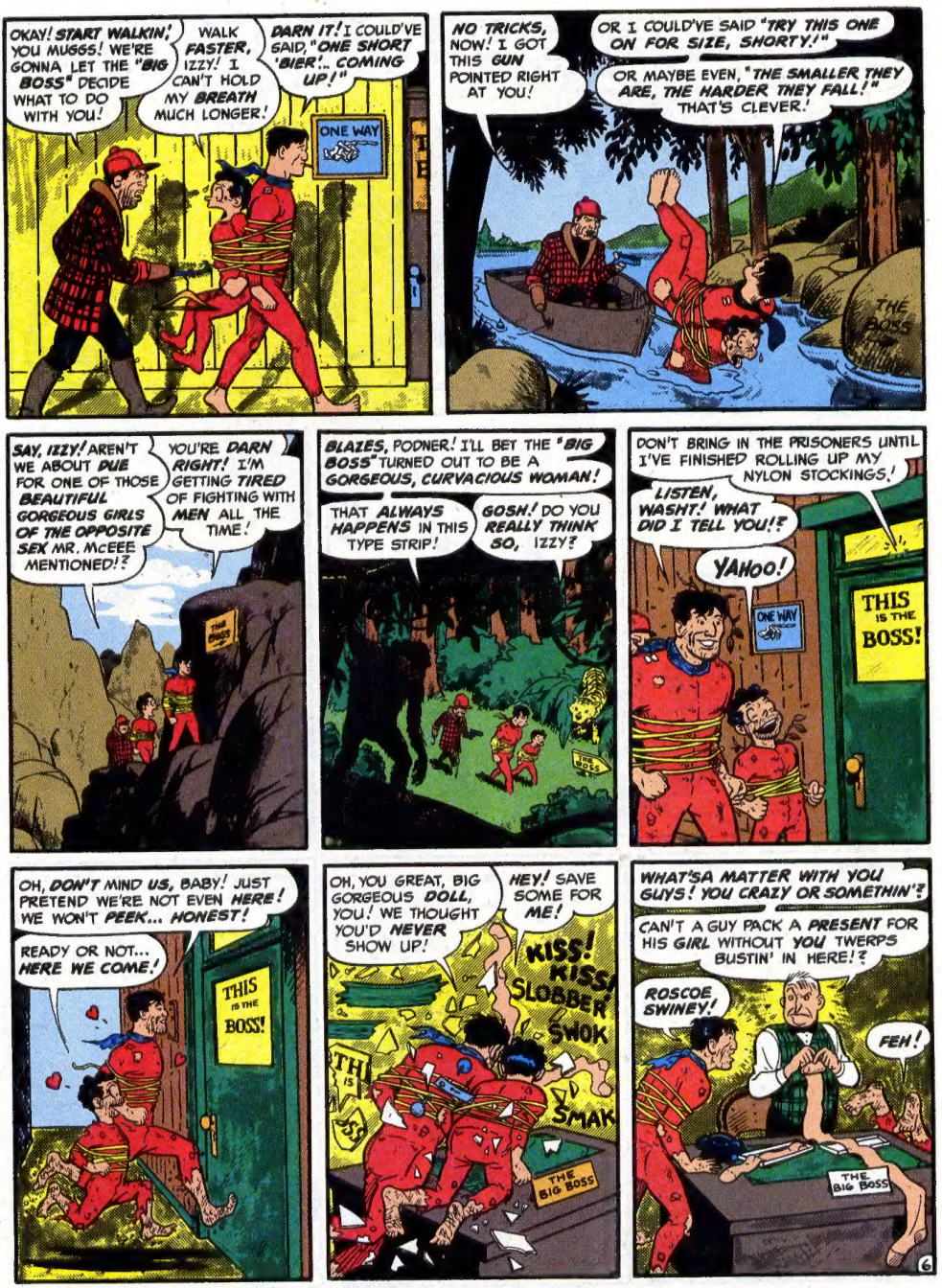
MR. MCEEE, SUH! I'VE COME TO ASK FOR A TRANSFER INTO ANOTHER DEPARTMENT, SUH! I DON'T FEEL THAT BENDING BOBBY-PINS IS EXACTLY MY KIND OF WORK, SUH!
ME NEITHER!
KEEP YOUR NOSE TO THE GRINDSTONE...YOUR SHOULDER TO THE WHEEL...AND YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND!
NOW TRY AND WORK IN THAT POSITION!
HAIR TONIC
YOU'RE IN LUCK, IZZY! I THINK I HAVE JUST THE KIND OF ASSIGNMENT YOU'RE LOOKING FOR! I NEED SOMEONE TO GO UP TO ROUGHANTOUGH IN THE NORTH COUNTRY AND LOOK OVER MY PROPERTY HOLDINGS THERE! IT'S A RUGGED JOB AND A DANGEROUS ONE! YOU'LL BE SET UPON BY THIEVES AND HOODLUMS, SHOT AT BY MURDEROUS GUNMEN, AND YOU'LL BE EXPECTED TO RISK YOUR LIFE DAILY IN THE NORMAL COURSE OF DUTY! IN SHORT...
THE DANGER IS GREAT... AND THE PAY IS SMALL!
IT'S A HE-MAN'S JOB!
WHAT DO YOU SAY, SON?
I SAY... THE HECK WITH IT!
ME, TOO!
IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME, I'VE GOT A COUPLE A MILLION MORE BOBBY-PINS TO BEND BEFORE LUNCH!
BUT WAIT! I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU THE BEST PART! THERE'LL BE GIRLS, TOO! BEAUTIFUL, GORGEOUS FEMALE GIRLS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX!
FEMALE GIRLS!?
OF THE OPPO-SITE SEX!?
SNAP SNAP SNAP
IT'S A DEAL, SUH!
GOOD BOY! YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO REGRET IT!
YAHOO!
BE AT THE AIRPORT AT FIVE O'CLOCK!
OH, BOY! THIS'LL BE JUST LIKE THE OLD DAYS, HUH, IZZY? FIGHTING AND BRAWLING AND SCRAPPING... ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR TROUBLE... AND FINDING IT!
I'LL THANK YOU TO LEAVE MY WIFE OUT OF THIS, PODNER!
NEVER A MOMENT'S PEACE IN THOSE DAYS, EH, IZZY, OL' BOY!?
WELL, CAROL! IZZY AND I ARE OFF ON ANOTHER SWASH-BUCKLING, SLAM-BANG, TWO-FISTED ADVENTURE!
BUT, WASHT, DARLING! YOU CAN'T LEAVE NOW! WHAT ABOUT THAT LITTLE BUNDLE WE'RE EXPECTING TO ARRIVE ANY DAY NOW?
I MEAN...SURELY YOU'RE NOT LEAVING BEFORE THE LAUNDRY COMES BACK! YOU HAVEN'T ANY CLEAN SHIRTS!
@x#?!! FURSHLUGGINER SWASHES WON'T STAY BUCKLED!
2

OH, BOY! I CAN HARDLY WAIT TO GET OUT ON THE OPEN ROAD AGAIN AFTER ALL THESE YEARS OF HUM-DRUM, WORK-A-DAY EXISTENCE!
'BYE, CAROL!
'BYE, IZZY!
IT'LL BE GOOD TO GET BACK TO ROUGHING IT AFTER ALL THIS SOFT LIVING, DUE TO THE FACT THAT MY WIFE HAS MADE MILLIONS PLAYING THE STOCK MARKET!
'BYE, SUGAR!
BUY CONSOLIDATED STEEL... PREFERRED!
COME ON, IZZY! WE'VE GOT JUST A FEW MINUTES TO MAKE THAT PLANE!
WRITE IF YOU GET WORK!
HANG BY YOUR THUMBS!
NOW, REMEMBER, WASHT! OUR IDENTITIES MUST BE KEPT TOP-SECRET ON THIS TRIP! THAT'S WHY YOU'RE DISGUISED AS A LITTLE BOY! IT WILL CONFUSE ANY SPIES OF A RIVAL FIRM THAT MAY BE TRAILING US!
ALSO, IT'S HALF FARE, WHICH IS THE BEST PART!
NOW, DON'T FORGET! YOU ARE TYPICAL SIX-YEAR-OLD READING A COMIC BOOK!
...WHILE I AM A TYPICAL ADULT! ALSO READING A COMIC BOOK!
PLEASE DO NOT TALK TO THE PILOT WHILE PLANE IS IN MOTION
MAD
WELL, HERE WE ARE IN ROUGHANTOUGH PODNER! THIS IS THE MELTING-POT OF THE MEANEST, ROUGHEST, SCURVIEST LOT OF DERELICTS IN THE ENTIRE NORTH COUNTRY. ITS DARK ALLEYWAYS AND DIMLY-LIT CAFES ARE CRAWLING WITH DOPE-PEDDLERS, SMUGGLERS, GUNMEN, SLAVE-TRADERS, BLACK-MARKETEERS, THIEVES, MURDERERS, AND USED CAR SALESMEN...
OH! YOU'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE!?
NO! I READ THE PAMPHLET THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PUTS OUT!
TATTOO TEDS
FIRE SALE
CHEAP FIRES
FLAMES TWO FOR $1.00
WELCOME TO ROUGHANTOUGH
A NICE TOWN IN WHICH TO SETTLE DOWN PERMANENTLY!
NICE ATMOSPHERE YOU HAVE HERE, PODNER! I ESPECIALLY LIKE THE SAWDUST ON THE FLOOR!
THAT AIN'T SAWDUST, MATE! THAT'S YESTERDAY'S FURNITURE!
SPECIAL
ROCKS AND SODA
WISKY & SODA
4345 7911
IN NEW JERSEY BIGELOW 6743?
WELL, TELL ME! WHAT DO YOU FELLOWS DO AROUND HERE FOR EXCITEMENT?
OH, ONCE IN A WHILE WE GET A CARNIVAL PASSIN' THROUGH TOWN!
SPIKED HALVAH!
RAT TAT-TAT
BAM
ZING
POW
WAC
KLEENEX
5¢ PACK
3

HEY, BULL! THERE'S A DUDE OUT FRONT ASKIN' A LOT OF QUESTIONS!
NO! LE'ME HANDLE THIS, CHARLIE!
SHOULD I TAKE CARE OF HIM!
WHICH ONE OF YOU IS THE GUY WHO'S ASKIN'A BUNCH O' NOSEY QUESTIONS?
HIM!
HIM!
WELL, AS LONG AS I HAVE MY CHOICE, I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE SMALLER GUY, THEN...
LICKETY-POW
BLAZES, SUH! I'LL TEACH YOU TO HIT A MAN HALF YOUR SIZE!
TEACH HIM A LESSON, IZZY!
Y'SEE, THE TRICK WITH MEN HALF YOUR SIZE IS TO REMEMBER TO KEEP YOUR LEFT STRAIGHT OUT!
THEN YOU'VE ALLA TIME GOT THE REACH ON HIM!
HFF HFF!
POP!
BOP!
AND ANOTHER IMPORTANT THING IS ALWAYS TO KEEP YOUR BALANCE, NO MATTER WHETHER YOU'RE GOING FORWARDS OR BACKWARDS!
YOU WILL NOTICE THAT AT NO TIME DO MY FEET LEAVE MY ANKLES!
BOING!
BOING!
BOING!
BOING!
NOTICE HOW I AM BAFFLING HIM WITH FOOTWORK... MAKING IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR MY OPPONENT TO HIT ME!
GO ON, WASHT! TRY AND HIT ME!
GO AHEAD!
LICKETY POW!
I COULD LICK HIM EASY... IF HE'D ONLY LEARN HOW TO BOX!
4

DEATH TO THE FOREIGN INTRUDERS!
GET 'EM!
I'LL TAKE THE LITTLE GUY!!
NO, LEAVE HIM FOR ME!
CHARGE!
LET'S MAKE A RUN FOR IT, IZZY! THE WHOLE TOWN'S OUT TO GET US!
DON'T WORRY, PODNER! I CAN HANDLE THEM!
WELLSLEY
LICKETY POW
SORRY, PODNER! I GUESS I BEAT YOU TO THE "PAUNCH" ON THAT ONE!
LICKETY POW!
I'D LIKE TO STICK AROUND AND "CHIN" WITH YOU ALL DAY... BUT I HAVEN'T THE TIME!
LICKETY POW
HOW DOES THIS "SUIT" YOU? IT COMES WITH A "BELT IN THE BACK"!
LICKETY POW!
OKAY, WISE GUY! PUT 'EM UP!
LICKETY POW!
UNCLE DON'S CLUB
WHAT HAPPENED, IZZY!? YOU DIDN'T HIT HIM!
I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING CLEVER TO SAY!
LIMBURGER CHEESE
5


OKAY! START WALKIN', YOU MUGGS! WE'RE GONNA LET THE "BIG BOSS" DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH YOU!
WALK FASTER, IZZY! I CAN'T HOLD MY BREATH MUCH LONGER!
DARN IT! I COULD'VE SAID, "ONE SHORT 'BIER'... COMING UP!"
ONE WAY
NO TRICKS, NOW! I GOT THIS GUN POINTED RIGHT AT YOU!
OR I COULD'VE SAID "TRY THIS ONE ON FOR SIZE, SHORTY!"
OR MAYBE EVEN, "THE SMALLER THEY ARE, THE HARDER THEY FALL!" THAT'S CLEVER!
THE BOSS
SAY, IZZY! AREN'T WE ABOUT DUE FOR ONE OF THOSE BEAUTIFUL GORGEOUS GIRLS OF THE OPPOSITE SEX MR. MCEEE MENTIONED!?
YOU'RE DARN RIGHT! I'M GETTING TIRED OF FIGHTING WITH MEN ALL THE TIME!
BLAZES, PODNER! I'LL BET THE "BIG BOSS" TURNED OUT TO BE A GORGEOUS, CURVACIOUS WOMAN!
THAT ALWAYS HAPPENS IN THIS TYPE STRIP!
GOSH! DO YOU REALLY THINK SO, IZZY?
DON'T BRING IN THE PRISONERS UNTIL I'VE FINISHED ROLLING UP MY NYLON STOCKINGS!
LISTEN, WASHT! WHAT DID I TELL YOU!?
YAHOO!
ONE WAY
THIS IS THE BOSS!
OH, DON'T MIND US, BABY! JUST PRETEND WE'RE NOT EVEN HERE! WE WON'T PEEK... HONEST!
READY OR NOT... HERE WE COME!
THIS IS THE BOSS!
OH, YOU GREAT, BIG GORGEOUS DOLL, YOU! WE THOUGHT YOU'D NEVER SHOW UP!
HEY! SAVE SOME FOR ME!
KISS! KISS! SLOBBER SWOK SMAK
THE BIG BOSS
WHAT'SA MATTER WITH YOU GUYS! YOU CRAZY OR SOMETHIN'?
CAN'T A GUY PACK A PRESENT FOR HIS GIRL WITHOUT YOU TWERPS BUSTIN' IN HERE!?
ROSCOE SWINEY!
FEH!
THE BIG BOSS
6

WHAT IN BLAZES ARE YOU DOING HERE, SWINEY!? YOU BELONG IN BIZZ SAWYOUR'S STRIP! YOU'RE ON THE WRONG COMIC PAGE, PODNER!
I AM!? I ALLUS GET CONFUSED! THE DRAWING STYLES ARE SO SIMILAR!
THAT'S OKAY, SWINEY! WE MAKE THE SAME MISTAKE OURSELVES, SOMETIMES!
THE BOSS
SWINEY, OL' PODNER! YOU'VE GOT TO HELP ME AND MY BUDDY, WASHT, FIGHT OUR WAY OUT OF HERE!
YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, IZZY! YOU KNOW THERE'S NOTHING OL' SWINEY LOVES BETTER'N A GOOD BRAWL!
YAHOO!
THIS IS A GOOD CHANCE FOR YOU GUYS TO "PUT YOUR HEADS TOGETHER."
NOW WHY CAN'T I THINK OF CLEVER THINGS LIKE THAT TO SAY!
I HEAR HE DOESN'T MAKE THAT STUFF UP HIMSELF AT ALL!
LICKETY POW!
LICKETY POW!
LICKETY POW!
LICKETY POW!
LICKETY POW!
LICKETY POW!
FIGARO - FIGARO - FIGARO!
THE BOSS
S'LONG, IZZY... WASHT! SEE YOU IN THE FUNNY PAPERS!
THERE! YOU SEE!? HE DID IT AGAIN!
DON'T BROOD ABOUT IT, IZZY! WHEN WE GET BACK TO CIVILIZATION, I'LL LEND YOU MY COPY OF "WITTY SAYINGS FOR EVERY OCCASION."
A FLY-BY-NITE CO.
PAN ic AMERICAN
IT'S TOO BAD WE'RE ARRIVING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT, OR I'M SURE MR. MCEEE WOULD BE HERE TO MEET US AND CONGRATULATE US ON THE GREAT JOB WE'VE DONE, EH, IZZY!?
THAT'S WHY I MADE SURE WE CAME ON THE NIGHT PLANE, PODNER!
YOU SEE, I DON'T WANT CONGRATULATIONS!
NOR DO I WANT GRATITUDE!
DISGUISES
I JUST WANT PIN MONEY!
YAHOO!
IF YOU BUILD A BETTER MOUSETRAP, YOU'LL CATCH BETTER MICE!
HAIR-PIN
THE END
7

SPECTACULAR MOVIE DEPT.: THIS IS THE STORY OF AN ACTRESS'S METEORIC RISE FROM DISMAL OBSCURITY TO SUDDEN STARDOM. SURE, IT'S BEEN DONE 362 TIMES ALREADY IN PLAIN OL' TECHNICOLOR... 418 TIMES IN OLD FASHIONED BLACK-AND-WHITE... AND 826 TIMES IN ANCIENT SILENT FILMS! BUT IT HASN'T BEEN DONE BEFORE IN WIDE-SCREEN CINEMASCOPE WITH SIX-TRACK STEREOPHONIC SOUND, YOU GOTTA ADMIT! SO WHAT'S A BETTER REASON TO REMAKE (FOR THE 1606TH TIME) THE PICTURE THAT PEEKS BEHIND THE TINSEL VEIL OF HOLLYWOOD AND SHOWS JUST HOW...

"A STAR IS CORN"

TONIGHT
BIG HOLLYWOOD
BENEFIT PERFORMANCE

ALL MONEY TAKEN IN TONIGHT WILL GO DIRECTLY TO THE BANK FIRST THING IN THE MORNING. THE SHOW'S FOR OUR BENEFIT!

WELL, HERE WE *ARE* FOLKS, AT THE MOST GALA PERFORMANCE EVER WITNESSED HERE AT THE *CHINESE THEATER!*

BUT DON'T ASK ME *WHICH* CHINESE THEATER IT IS! THEY ALL *LOOK ALIKE TO ME!*

JUST ABOUT *EVERYONE* CONNECTED WITH THE MOVIE INDUSTRY IS *HERE* TONIGHT

SO *WHO'S* WATCHING THE *STUDIO?*

BUT WAIT! WHO'S THAT DRIVING UP TO THE THEATER!?

YOU CAN LET ME OUT *HERE*, GEORGE! IT'S SUCH A NICE NIGHT, I THINK I'LL *WALK* THE REST OF THE WAY!

WHY, IT'S NONE OTHER THAN THAT *IRRESPONSIBLE, ECCENTRIC MATINEE IDOL, NORMAN MAINLINER!*

JUST LISTEN TO THE DELIGHTED *SCREAMS* OF THE *CROWD* AS HE MAKES HIS WAY INTO THE THEATER!

EEEK

SCREE-E-E

GOOD LORD!

OWWWW

ARRG

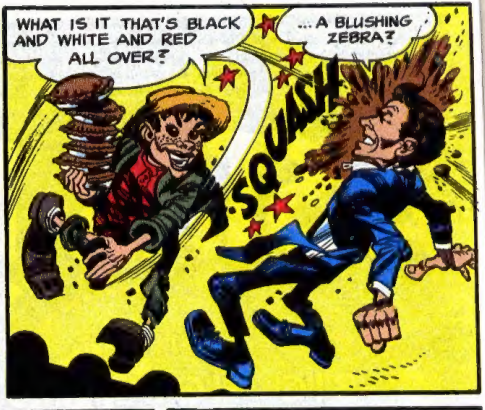
LOOK WHO'S WANDERING ON STAGE! IT'S *NORMAN MAINLINER*... THE IRRESPONSIBLE, ECCENTRIC, MATINEE IDOL...

...AND *HIGH AS USUAL*. HE'LL *RUIN* THAT POOR GIRL'S ACT!

D'YA KNOW "MELON-CHOLY BABY"...?

ESTHER BLODGETT

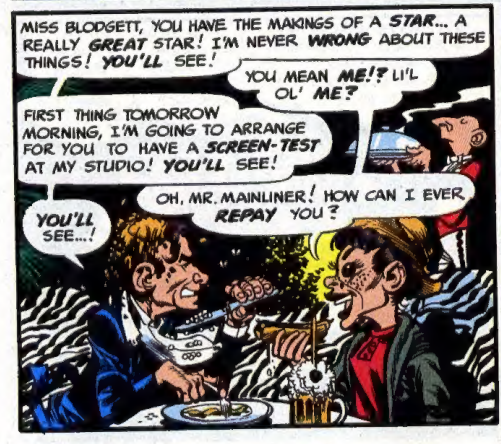
LOOK! SHE'S CLEVERLY WORKING HIM RIGHT INTO THE ACT!
WHO WAS THAT LADY I SAW YOU OUTWIT LAST NIGHT?
DIS MUS' BE D' PLACE!
SPIT


WHAT IS IT THAT'S BLACK AND WHITE AND RED ALL OVER?
... A BLUSHING ZEBRA?
SQUASH

THE GIRL'S SENSATIONAL!
WHAT PRESENCE OF MIND!
WHAT A FINISH!

I... I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR THE WAY YOU COVERED FOR ME OUT THERE ON THE STAGE, MISS BLODGETT!
YOU HAD A PERFECT RIGHT TO HUMILIATE ME, YET YOU CHOSE NOT TO!
DR. KINSEY, I PRESUME...?!
YOU'RE ALL RIGHT IN MY BOOK!

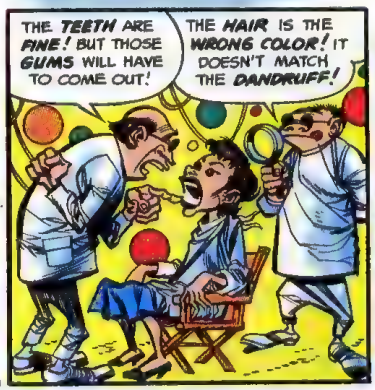
NO, I AM THAT IRRESPONSIBLE ECCENTRIC MATINEE IDOL, NORMAN MAINLINER! WON'T YOU LET ME REPAY YOUR KINDNESS BY TAKING YOU TO DINNER?
I KNOW WHERE WE CAN GET SOME WONDERFUL PHEASANT-UNDER-GLASS... ROASTED TRUFFLES... AND HUMMING BIRD TONGUES AU-GRATIN! WHAT DO YOU SAY?
I HAD THAT FOR LUNCH!


MISS BLODGETT, YOU HAVE THE MAKINGS OF A STAR... A REALLY GREAT STAR! I'M NEVER WRONG ABOUT THESE THINGS! YOU'LL SEE!
YOU MEAN ME!? LI'L OL' ME?
FIRST THING TOMORROW MORNING, I'M GOING TO ARRANGE FOR YOU TO HAVE A SCREEN-TEST AT MY STUDIO! YOU'LL SEE!
OH, MR. MAINLINER! HOW CAN I EVER REPAY YOU?
YOU'LL SEE...!

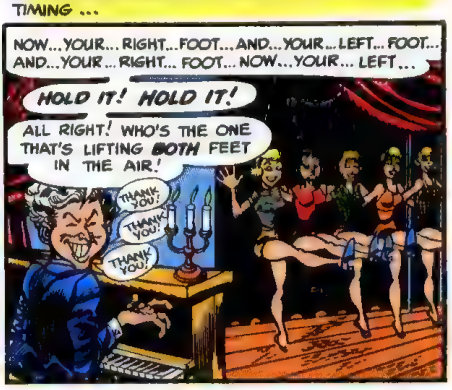
WE MUST CELEBRATE THIS OCCASION! ALLOW ME TO DRINK A TOAST TO YOU OUT OF YOUR SLIPPER!
I'M EMBARRASSED! IF I KNEW WE WERE GOING TO SUCH A FANCY PLACE, I WOULD HAVE CHANGED MY SHOES!
NO! NO! I'M GLAD YOU DIDN'T! SLURP!

AND SO, ON THE SUDDEN IMPULSE OF THE FAST LIVING MOVIE IDOL, ESTHER IS THROWN INTO THE FILMLAND GRISTMILL... WHERE SO MANY YOUNG HOPEFULS ARE, FOR THE MOST PART, DESTINED FOR DISAPPOINTMENT...OBSCURITY AND EVENTUAL FAILURE!

FIRST COME THE LONG HOURS WITH THE MAKE-UP EXPERTS...

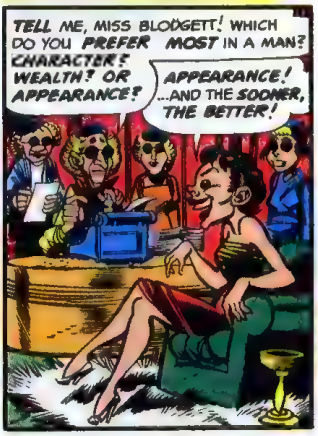


...THEN, THE EXHAUSTING DANCE WORKOUTS...DEVELOPING AND SHARPENING HER SENSE OF RHYTHM AND TIMING ...

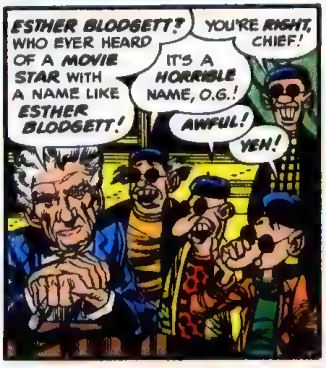


...THE CONSTANT DICTION LESSONS...

... THE ENDLESS INTERVIEWS WITH THE PUBLICITY STAFF...


TELL ME, MISS BLODGETT! WHICH DO YOU PREFER MOST IN A MAN? CHARACTER? WEALTH? OR APPEARANCE?
APPEARANCE! ...AND THE SOONER, THE BETTER!

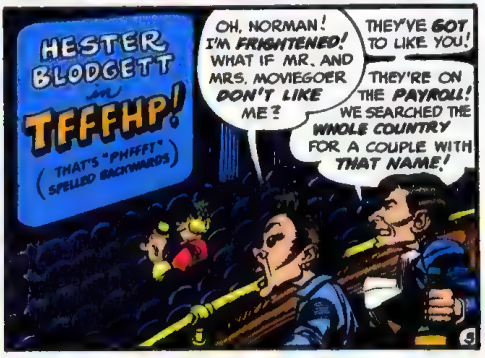
... AND THE FATEFUL MEETING WITH O.G. OLIVER, THE HEAD OF THE TANTAMOUNT PICTURES...THE MAN WHO HOLDS THE POWER TO MAKE OR BREAK A BUDDING STARLET...


ESTHER BLODGETT? WHO EVER HEARD OF A MOVIE STAR WITH A NAME LIKE ESTHER BLODGETT!
YOU'RE RIGHT, CHIEF!
IT'S A HORRIBLE NAME, O.G.!
AWFUL!
YEH!

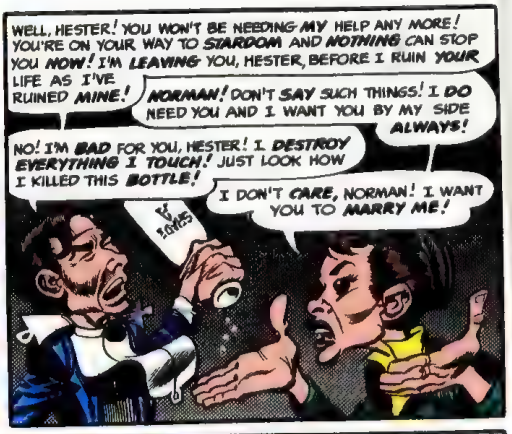
WE'LL HAVE TO THINK UP A MORE GLAMOROUS, MORE SOPHISTICATED NAME FOR YOU! SOMETHING LIKE...

WAIT A MINUTE! I'VE GOT IT! WE'LL CALL YOU HESTER BLODGETT! HOW DOES THAT SOUND TO YOU!
GREAT, O.G.!
SENSATIONAL!
TERRIFIC, BOSS!
HESTER BLODGETT! IT SOUNDS SO... STRANGE! I'LL HAVE TO GET USED TO IT!

...ALL BUILDING UP TO THAT EMOTION-CHARGED EVENING WHEN ESTHER IS ABOUT TO SEE HERSELF ON THE SILVER SCREEN FOR THE FIRST TIME, AND SHE NERVOUSLY AWAITS THE REACTION OF MR. AND MRS. MOVIEGOER...


HESTER BLODGETT in TFFFHP!
(THAT'S "PHFFT" SPELLED BACKWARDS)
OH, NORMAN! I'M FRIGHTENED! WHAT IF MR. AND MRS. MOVIEGOER DON'T LIKE ME?
THEY'VE GOT TO LIKE YOU!
THEY'RE ON THE PAYROLL! WE SEARCHED THE WHOLE COUNTRY FOR A COUPLE WITH THAT NAME!

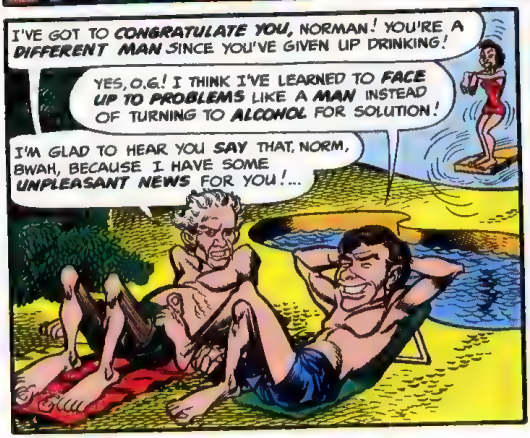
HESTER, YOU'VE DONE IT! AFTER TONIGHT, YOUR NAME WILL BE A HOUSEHOLD WORD!
LIKE RAG-MOP!?
JUST LOOK AT THESE REACTION CARDS, O.G. 84% OF THE AUDIENCE, NAMELY MRS. MOVIEGOER, THINKS HESTER IS SENSATIONAL!
IR-RRB! (WHICH IS BRR-RT, SPELLED BACKWARDS.)


WELL, HESTER! YOU WON'T BE NEEDING MY HELP ANY MORE! YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO STARDOM AND NOTHING CAN STOP YOU NOW! I'M LEAVING YOU, HESTER, BEFORE I RUIN YOUR LIFE AS I'VE RUINED MINE!
NORMAN! DON'T SAY SUCH THINGS! I DO NEED YOU AND I WANT YOU BY MY SIDE ALWAYS!
NO! I'M BAD FOR YOU, HESTER! I DESTROY EVERYTHING I TOUCH! JUST LOOK HOW I KILLED THIS BOTTLE!
I DON'T CARE, NORMAN! I WANT YOU TO MARRY ME!

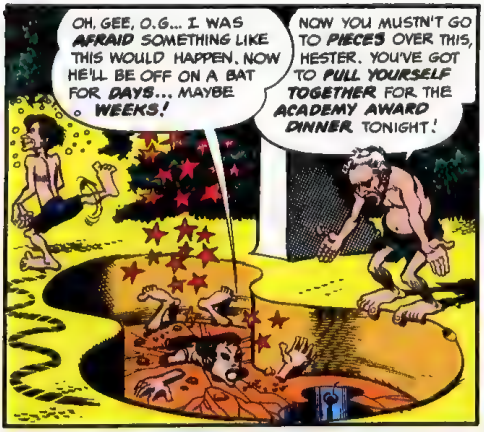
DO YOU, NORMAN MAINLINER, SOLEMNLY SWEAR...?
YES! BUT ONLY WHEN I DRINK!
AND, DO YOU, HESTER BLODGETT, SOLEMNLY SWEAR...?
NEVER!!
LICENSES: MARRIAGE, DOG, CAT, FISHING, HUNTING
THEN, I NOW PRONOUNCE YOU--

DAILY POOP
NORMAN MAINLINER WEDS THE BLODGETT
BRIDE CARRIES TWO ORCHIDS
GROOM CARRIES FOUR ROSES... IN HIS HIP POCKET
CLOSE FRIENDS DOUBTFUL IT WILL LAST
THROW MINUTE RICE
BRIDE CARRIES GROOM ACROSS THRESHOLD!

DARLING, WHY ARE YOU EMPTYING ALL THOSE ULCER-SHAPED BOTTLES INTO OUR ULCER-SHAPED SWIMMING POOL?
AS A SYMBOL, DARLING, NOW THAT I HAVE YOU, I WON'T HAVE TO DRINK ANY MORE! YOUR LOVE AND DEVOTION HAVE CURED ME OF THAT AWFUL HABIT!

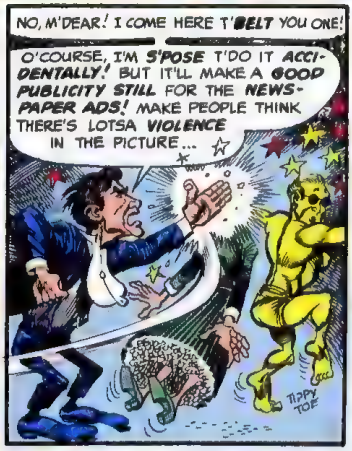

I'VE GOT TO CONGRATULATE YOU, NORMAN! YOU'RE A DIFFERENT MAN SINCE YOU'VE GIVEN UP DRINKING!
YES, O.G.! I THINK I'VE LEARNED TO FACE UP TO PROBLEMS LIKE A MAN INSTEAD OF TURNING TO ALCOHOL FOR SOLUTION!
I'M GLAD TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT, NORM, BWAH, BECAUSE I HAVE SOME UNPLEASANT NEWS FOR YOU!...

...THE STUDIO HAS DROPPED YOUR CONTRACT!
SWISH
SLURP GURGLE
GURGLE GURGLE

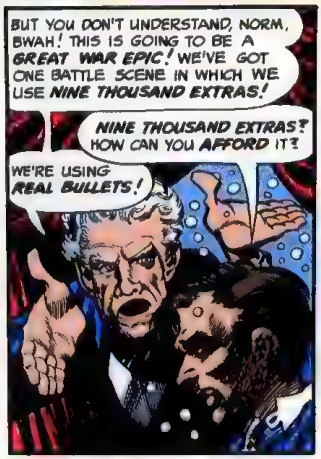

OH, GEE, O.G... I WAS AFRAID SOMETHING LIKE THIS WOULD HAPPEN. NOW HE'LL BE OFF ON A BAT FOR DAYS... MAYBE WEEKS!
NOW YOU MUSTN'T GO TO PIECES OVER THIS, HESTER. YOU'VE GOT TO PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER FOR THE ACADEMY AWARD DINNER TONIGHT!

...AND SO, IT IS WITH GREAT PLEASURE THAT I PRESENT TO YOU, HESTER BLODGETT... FOR YOUR OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE FILM INDUSTRY... THIS HANDSOME 24-CARAT, SOLID, GOLD-PLATED OSCAR!
OKAY! COME ON IN, OSCAR!
VA-VA VA-VOOM!

LE' ME BE THE FIRSH' T' CONGRATULATE YOU, ESTHER!
NORMAN! YOU'VE COME HERE TO BE AT MY SIDE AT THIS THRILLING MOMENT...!


NO, M'DEAR! I COME HERE T' BELT YOU ONE!
O'COURSE, I'M S'POSE T'DO IT ACCIDENTALLY! BUT IT'LL MAKE A GOOD PUBLICITY STILL FOR THE NEWSPAPER ADS! MAKE PEOPLE THINK THERE'S LOTSA VIOLENCE IN THE PICTURE...
TIPPY TOE

NORMAN! I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU! I'VE GOT A GREAT PART FOR YOU IN MY NEW PICTURE!
NO THANKS, O.G.! I'LL HOLD OUT FOR A SPEAKING PART!
YOU PLAY THE ROLE OF A MAN WHO'S BEEN MARRIED FOR TWENTY YEARS!


BUT YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND, NORM, BWAH! THIS IS GOING TO BE A GREAT WAR EPIC! WE'VE GOT ONE BATTLE SCENE IN WHICH WE USE NINE THOUSAND EXTRAS!
NINE THOUSAND EXTRAS? HOW CAN YOU AFFORD IT?
WE'RE USING REAL BULLETS!

FORGET IT, O.G.! I DON'T WANT CHARITY... OR SYMPATHY... OR PITY! I JUST WANT ONE THING! MONEY!
HE'LL KILL HIMSELF, HESTER! ISN'T THERE SOME WAY WE CAN GET HIM TO CUT DOWN ON HIS INTAKE?
I TRIED BENDING HIS FUNNEL, BUT IT DIDN'T DO ANY GOOD!

YES, THIS IS MRS. MAINLINER! WHAT'S THAT YOU SAY? MY HUSBAND IS IN JAIL?... FOR RECKLESS DRIVING!?
YOU SAY HE DROVE THROUGH TWO RED LIGHTS?! SO WHAT'S SO SERIOUS ABOUT THAT?!
OH, I SEE! THEY WERE ON THE BACK OF A DOWNTOWN BUS!
ALL RIGHT, I'LL BE RIGHT DOWN!

WELL, MR. MAINLINER? WHAT HAVE YOU TO SAY IN YOUR DEFENSE!
FIRS' OF ALL, I WANNA SAY THAT NOT ONLY ARE THESE CALIFORNIANS TERRIBLE DRIVERS, BUT THEY'RE DISHONEST, TOO!
EVERY TIME I STUCK MY HAND OUT T'SIGNAL, SOMEBODY STOLE THE STRAW OUTTA MY BOTTLE!
IT WAS SWEET OF YOU TO COME DOWN AND BAIL ME OUT, LAST NIGHT, DARLING. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WOULD HAVE DONE WITHOUT YOU!
SIMPLE! SIXTY DAYS!
I'M A NEW MAN, ESTHER! AND TO PROVE IT, I'M GOING TO TAKE A SWIM BEFORE BREAKFAST!
ALL RIGHT. MEANWHILE, I'LL RUSTLE UP SOMETHING FOR US TO EAT!
♪ I'M GLAD I MADE YOU CRY, BABY! YOUR FACE IS CLEANER NOW... ♪
I WISH SHE WOULDN'T SING THROUGH THE SCREEN DOOR LIKE THAT! SHE'S STRAINING HER VOICE!
♪ I'LL GET ALONG WITHOUT YOU... VERY WELL ♪
SHE'S RIGHT! I'LL JUST KEEP WALKING...
...AND WALKING...
AND... BLURBLE!
NORMAN, BREAKFAST IS READY! NORMAN!? NORMAN!
GOOD LORD! ALL I SEE ARE HIS BATHROBE... SLIPPERS... TOWEL... GOGGLES... MASK... FLIPPERS... EAR PLUGS... BATHING CAPS... AND WATER WINGS FLOATING ON THE SURFACE!
IF I KNOW NORMAN, THIS CAN ONLY MEAN ONE THING!
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT BIG OL' YOU IS REALLY GOIN' T'GET LI'L OL' ME INTO THE MOVIES!
PLEASE DON'T TELL YOUR FRIENDS HOW THIS PICTURE ENDS! AND MOST IMPORTANT... DON'T TELL MY WIFE'S FRIENDS!
COMING SOON "A STAMPLIN IS CORN"
THE END
6

CLASSIFIED JOKES DEPT.: NOW THAT THE **LIBERACE** AND **BOPSTER GAGS** HAVE COME AND GONE, THE EDITORS OF **PANIC** FEEL THAT THERE'S A DEFINITE NEED FOR A REVIVAL OF **ANOTHER** TYPE OF HUMOR. AND SO, SINCE WE'VE BEEN PRESERVING THEM IN **ALCOHOL** FOR JUST SUCH AN OCCASION, WE'D LIKE TO PRESENT, AT THIS TIME, AN EVEN DOZEN OF OUR FAVORITE...

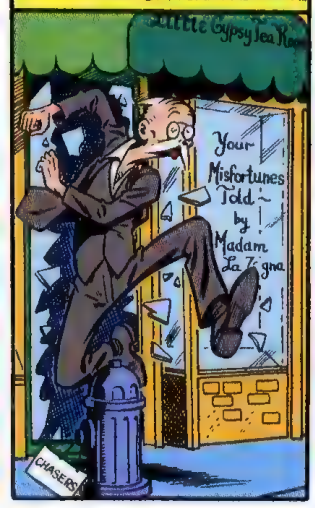
PUNCH LINES

JOKE #1: A DRUNK, STAGGERING PAST A GRAVEYARD LATE ONE NIGHT, HEARD CRIES COMING FROM ONE OF THE FRESHLY-DUG GRAVES...

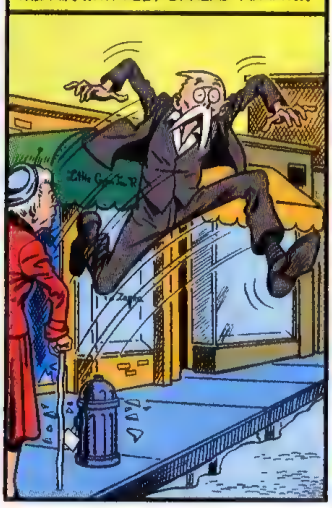
UPON INVESTIGATING, HE FOUND A GRAVE-DIGGER UNSUCCESSFULLY TRYING TO CLIMB OUT OF A DEEP PIT HE'D DUG...

WELL, **N' WONDER** YER COLD! YA HAVEN'T GOT ANY **DIRT** ON YA!

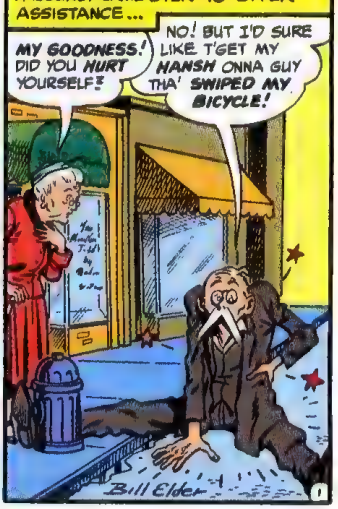
JOKE #2: A DRUNK CAME TEARING OUT OF A BAR AND GRILL...



...RAN TO THE CURB, LEAPED HIGH IN THE AIR WITH FEET SPREAD APART...

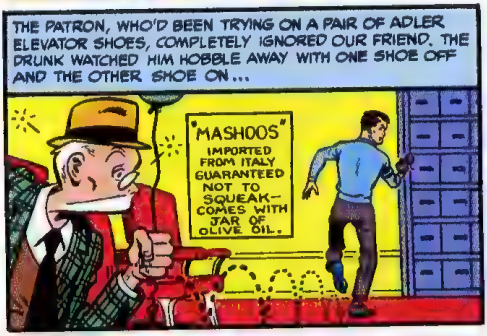


...AND LANDED IN A HEAP. AN ELDERLY PASSERBY CAME OVER TO OFFER ASSISTANCE...

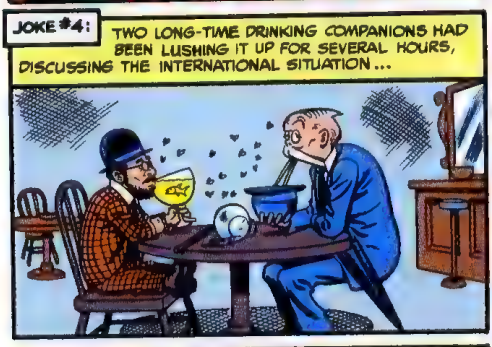


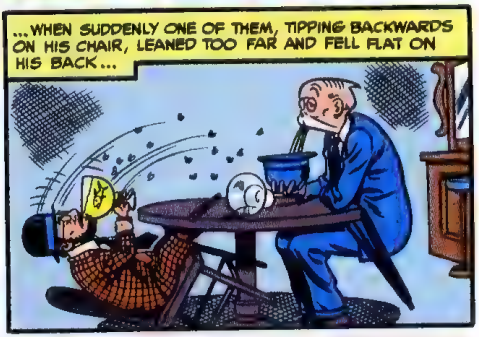
JOKE #3:
A DRUNK, MISTAKING IT FOR A BAR, WANDERED INTO A SHOE STORE...
SHOOZE
SHOOZE
"IF YOU HAVE TWO LEFT FEET—WE'LL CORRECT THEM WITH TWO RIGHT SHOES."

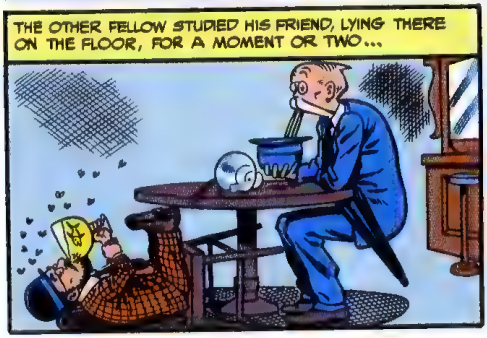
... AND, MISTAKING A CUSTOMER FOR THE BARTENDER, ORDERED HIS FAVORITE DRINK...
GI'ME A ZOMBIE... ONNA ROCKS!
KIDDIE SHOOZE
?

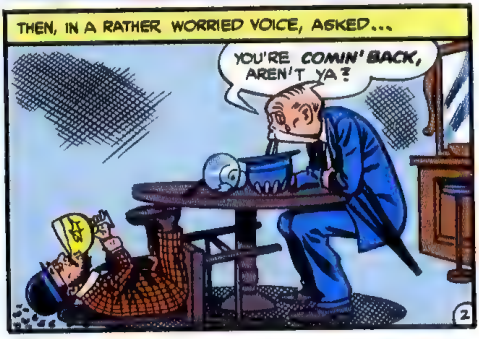

THE PATRON, WHO'D BEEN TRYING ON A PAIR OF ADLER ELEVATOR SHOES, COMPLETELY IGNORED OUR FRIEND. THE DRUNK WATCHED HIM HOBBLE AWAY WITH ONE SHOE OFF AND THE OTHER SHOE ON...
"MASHOOS" IMPORTED FROM ITALY GUARANTEED NOT TO SQUEAK— COMES WITH JAR OF OLIVE OIL.

...AND SAID...
WELL, IF YA GOTTA GO DOWN-STAIRS FER IT, NEVER MIND!

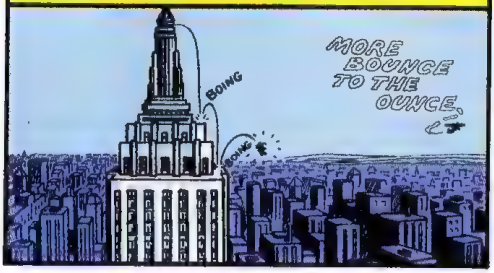

JOKE #4:
TWO LONG-TIME DRINKING COMPANIONS HAD BEEN LUSHING IT UP FOR SEVERAL HOURS, DISCUSSING THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION...


...WHEN SUDDENLY ONE OF THEM, TIPPING BACKWARDS ON HIS CHAIR, LEANED TOO FAR AND FELL FLAT ON HIS BACK...

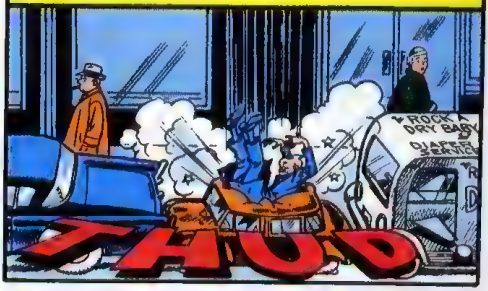

THE OTHER FELLOW STUDIED HIS FRIEND, LYING THERE ON THE FLOOR, FOR A MOMENT OR TWO...


THEN, IN A RATHER WORRIED VOICE, ASKED...
YOU'RE COMIN' BACK, AREN'T YA?
2

JOKE #5: A DRUNK, WHILE VIEWING THE CITY FROM THE OBSERVATION TOWER OF THE EMPIRE STATE BUILDING, LEANED A LITTLE TOO FAR OVER...



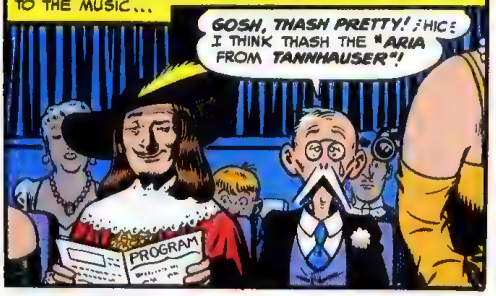
...AND FELL EIGHTY-SIX STORIES TO THE PAVEMENT WITH A SICKENING...



A POLICEMAN ELBOWED HIS WAY THROUGH THE CROWD THAT HAD GATHERED AROUND THE POOR FELLOW, ASKING...

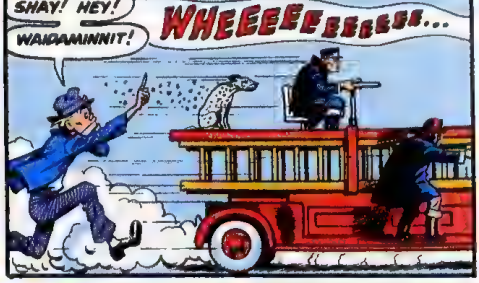
AND THE DRUNK ANSWERED SHEEPISHLY...

JOKE #6: TWO DRUNKS FOUND THEMSELVES, INEXPLICABLY, AT A CONCERT. THEY SAT, ENTRANCED, LISTENING TO THE MUSIC...

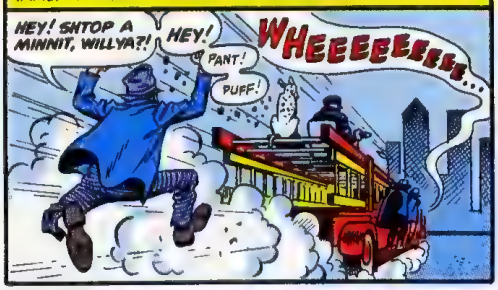


JOKE #7: A DRUNK WAS LAPPING IT UP AT A BAR WHEN HE HEARD THE WAIL OF A FIRE-ENGINE GOING BY...

DASHING INTO THE STREET, HE TRIED TO FLAG IT DOWN...

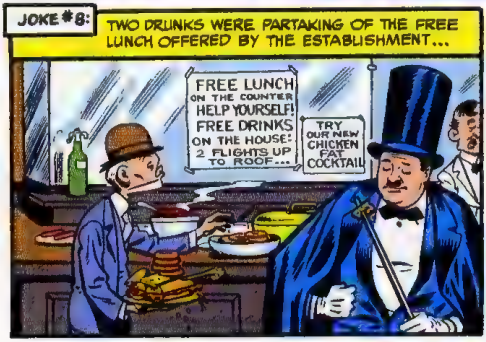


HE RACED AFTER THE SHRIEKING ENGINE FOR ABOUT SIX BLOCKS, VAINLY TRYING TO BRING IT TO A STOP...

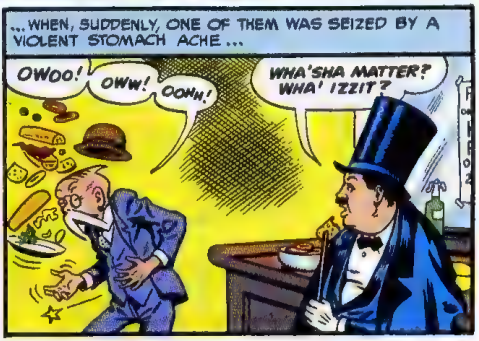


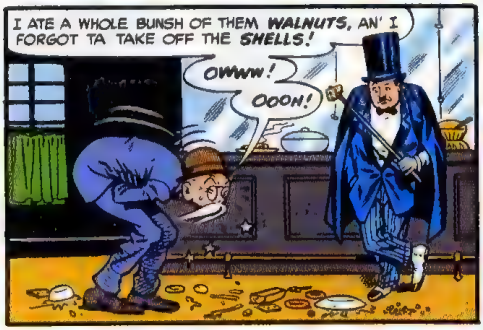
FINALLY, REALIZING THAT HE WAS BEING HOPELESSLY OUT-DISTANCED, THE DRUNK TURNED ANGRILY ON HIS HEELS...

JOKE #8: TWO DRUNKS WERE PARTAKING OF THE FREE LUNCH OFFERED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT...

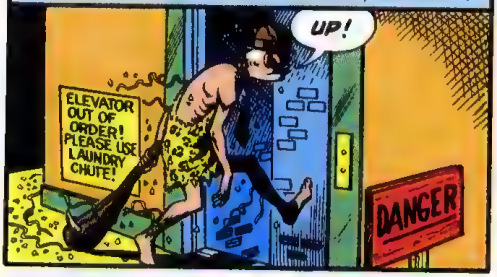


...WHEN, SUDDENLY, ONE OF THEM WAS SEIZED BY A VIOLENT STOMACH ACHE...

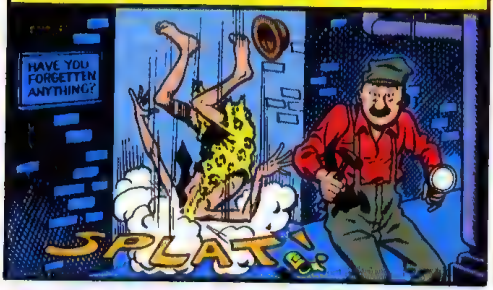




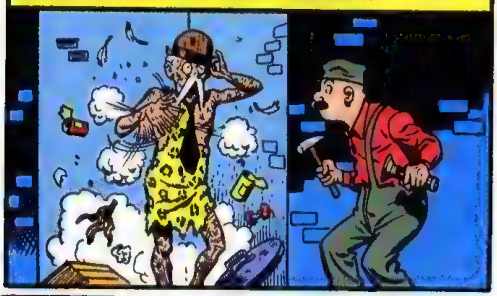
JOKE #9: A DRUNK, LEAVING A PENT-HOUSE PARTY, WEAVED HIS WAY DOWN THE CORRIDOR, STEPPED INTO AN OPEN ELEVATOR SHAFT, SAYING ...



...AND PLUNGED EIGHTEEN STORIES TO THE BASEMENT WHERE THE BUILDING SUPERINTENDENT WAS WORKING...

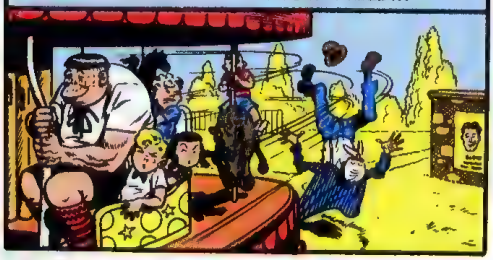


PICKING HIMSELF UP, BRUSHING HIMSELF OFF, AND GATHERING ALL THE DIGNITY HE COULD MUSTER...

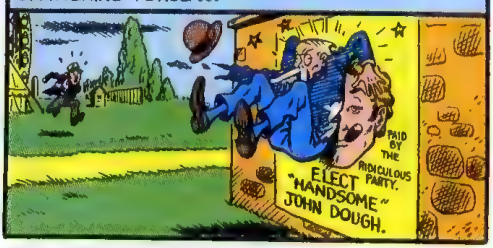


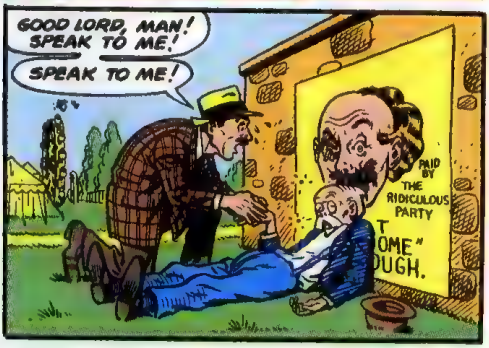
... THE DRUNK INSISTED...

JOKE #10: A DRUNK, WANDERING THROUGH A CARNIVAL, SOMEHOW GOT HIS JACKET CAUGHT ON A RUNNING CAROUSEL, AND WAS PICKED UP AND WHIRLED AROUND AND AROUND BY THE HUGE WHEEL...

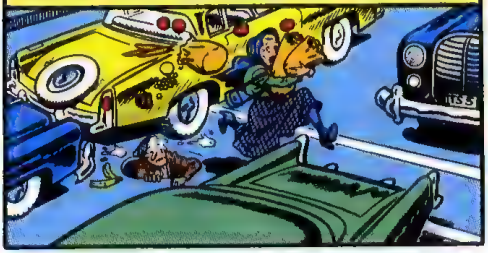


THE OWNER OF THE CONCESSION STOOD BY... WATCHING... PARALYZED WITH FRIGHT... UNTIL, FINALLY, ON THE EIGHTH TIME AROUND, THE COAT RIPPED AND THE DRUNK WAS FLUNG AGAINST A WALL WITH BONE-SHATTERING FORCE ...

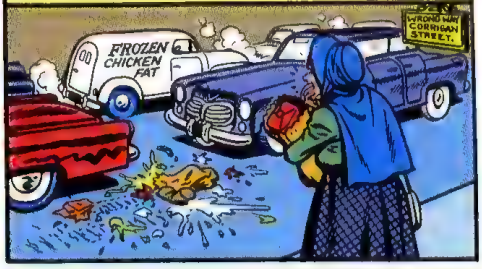




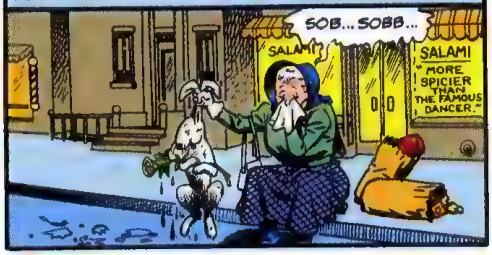
JOKE #11: A POOR OLD LADY, HER ARMS LOADED WITH GROCERIES, WAS TRYING TO CROSS THE STREET. STARTLED BY THE DIZZYING TRAFFIC, SHE DROPPED ONE OF HER BUNDLES...



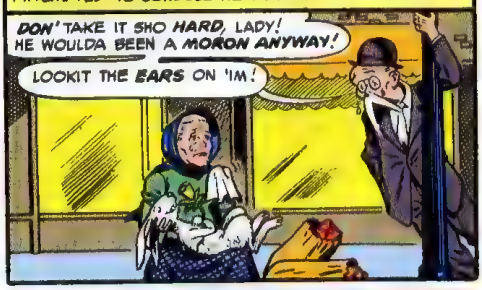
...AND STOOD BY, HELPLESSLY, WATCHING ITS CONTENTS BEING CRUSHED AND SPATTERED BY THE WHEELS OF THE PASSING CARS...



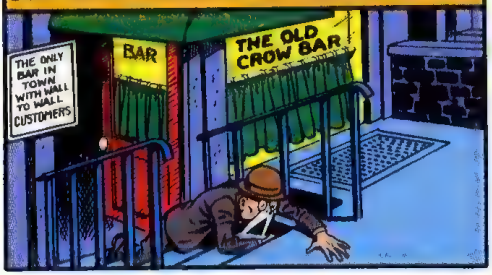
PICKING UP A RABBIT WHICH WAS MANGLED BEYOND USE, SHE BROKE INTO TEARS AT THE THOUGHT OF HOW SHE'D SKIMPED AND SAVED SO THAT SHE MIGHT SURPRISE HER POOR HUSBAND WITH SUCH A DELICACY...



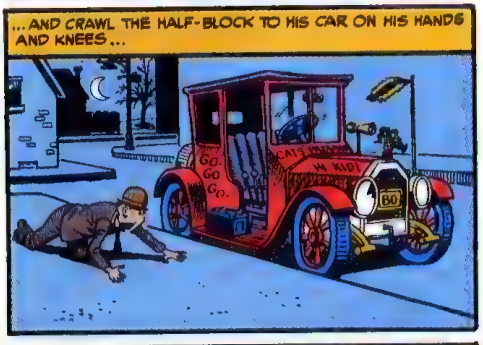
...WHEN A DRUNK, WHO HAPPENED ON THE SCENE, ATTEMPTED TO CONSOLE HER WITH...



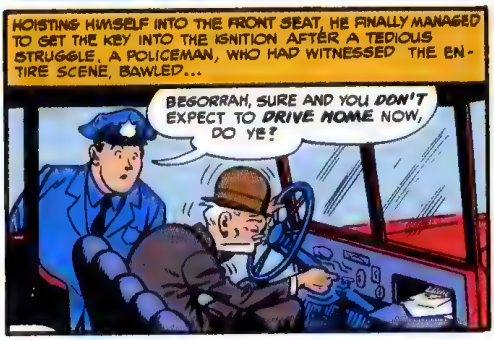
JOKE #12: A DRUNK, AFTER A FEW UNSUCCESSFUL TRIES, FINALLY MANAGED TO STUMBLE UP THE FEW STEPS THAT LED FROM BAR TO THE STREET LEVEL...

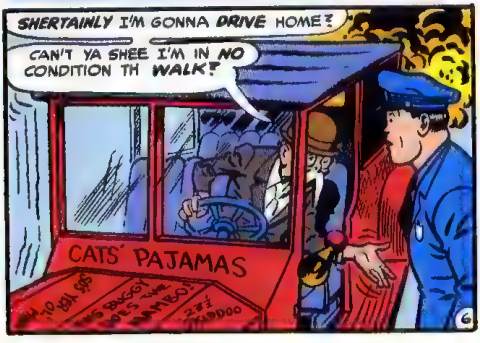


...AND CRAWL THE HALF-BLOCK TO HIS CAR ON HIS HANDS AND KNEES...



HOISTING HIMSELF INTO THE FRONT SEAT, HE FINALLY MANAGED TO GET THE KEY INTO THE IGNITION AFTER A TEDIOUS STRUGGLE. A POLICEMAN, WHO HAD WITNESSED THE ENTIRE SCENE, BAWLED...





A SPECIAL EDITORIAL

THIS IS AN APPEAL FOR ACTION!

THE PROBLEM: Comics are under fire . . . horror and crime comics in particular. Due to the efforts of various "do-gooders" and "do-gooder" groups, a large segment of the public is being led to believe that certain comic magazines cause juvenile delinquency, warp the minds of America's youth, and affect the development of the personalities of those who read them! Among these "do-gooders" are: a psychiatrist who has made a lucrative career of attacking comic magazines, certain publishing companies who do not publish comics and who would benefit by their demise, many groups of adults who would like to blame their lack of ability as responsible parents on comic mags instead of on themselves, and various assorted headline hunters. These people are militant. They complain to local police officials, to local magazine retailers, to local wholesalers, and to their congressmen. They complain and complain and threaten and threaten. Eventually, everyone gets frightened. The newsdealer gets frightened. He removes the books from display. The wholesaler gets frightened. He refuses shipments. The congressmen get frightened . . . November is coming! They start an investigation. This wave of hysteria has seriously threatened the very existence of the whole comic magazine industry.

WE BELIEVE: Your editors sincerely believe that the claim of these crusaders . . . that comics are bad for children . . . is *nonsense.* If we, in the slightest way, thought that horror comics, crime comics, or any other kind of comics were harmful to our readers, we would cease publishing them and direct our efforts toward something else!

And we're not alone in our belief. For example: Dr. David Abrahamsen, eminent criminologist, in his book, "Who Are The Guilty?" says, "Comic books do not lead to crime, although they have been widely blamed for it . . . In my experience as a psychiatrist, I cannot remember having seen one boy or girl who has committed a crime, or who became neurotic or psychotic . . . because he or she read comic books." A group led by Dr. Freda Kehm, Mental Health Chairman of the Ill. Congress of the P. T. A., decided that living room violence has "a decided beneficial effect on young minds." Dr. Robert H. Felix, director of the National Institute of Mental Health, said that horror comic books do not originate criminal behavior in children . . . in a way, the horror comics may do some good . . . children may use fantasy, as stimulated by the "comics" as a means of working out natural feelings of aggressiveness.

We also believe that a large portion of our total readership of horror and crime comics is made up of adults. We believe that those who oppose comics are a small minority. Yet this minority is causing the hysteria. The voice of the *majority* . . . you who buy comics, read them, enjoy them, and are not harmed by them . . . has not been heard!

WHAT YOU MUST DO: Unless you act now, the pressure from this minority may force comics from the American scene. It is members of this minority who threaten the local retailers, who threaten the local wholesalers, who have sent letters to the Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency (now investigating the comic industry).

IT IS TIME THAT THE MAJORITY'S VOICE BE HEARD!

It is time that the Senate Subcommittee hears from YOU . . . *each and every one of you!*

If you agree that comics are harmless entertainment, write a letter or a postcard *TODAY* . . . to:

The Senate Subcommittee on Juvenile Delinquency
United States Senate
Washington 25, D. C.

and in your own words, tell them so. Make it a nice, polite letter! In the case of you younger readers, it would be more effective if you could get your parents to write for you, or perhaps add a P.S. to your letter, as the Senate Subcommittee may not have much respect for the opinions of minors.

Of course, if you or your parents *disagree* with us, and believe that comics ARE bad, let your sentiments be known on that too! The important thing is that the Subcommittee hear from actual comic book readers and/or their parents, rather than from people who never read a comic magazine in their lives, but simply want to destroy them.

It is also important that your local newsdealer be encouraged to continue carrying, displaying, and selling *all kinds* of comics. Speak to him. Have him speak to his wholesaler.

Wherever you can, let your voice and the voices of your parents be raised in protest over the campaign against comics.

But first . . . *right now* . . . please write that letter to the Senate Subcommittee.

Sincerely,
Your grateful editors
(for the whole E. C. Gang)

Continuing with its policy of presenting its own inimitable versions of the kinds of things published by our daily press, PANIC now offers its satire of the familiar self-examining, self-probing, self-scoring, and self-rating type column . . . usually entitled something like:

NOW TAKE A GOOD LONG LOOK AT YOURSELF

By Melvin Potrezebie, L.S. & M.F.T.

Today, "Now Take A Good Long Look At Yourself" now takes a good long look at how you react to different situations. How you react to different situations is a good indication of your emotional stability, your threshold of tolerance, your ability to adjust, and whether you're an ol' sore head or not.

Read the following situations carefully. Then pick out how you would react to them. Put number of your choice in space provided. Add up sum of choice-numbers and compare with rating at end of col . . . HEY! No cheating! Mustn't look till you've picked your answers! Tch! Tch! Answer truthfully now! Don't figure out how to get a good score.

(A) You have been standing on a slow moving box-office-line, in the rain, on a Saturday night, in your best outfit, with no umbrella, for three hours, and you're finally third from the window. Suddenly a chance acquaintance taps you on the shoulder. (You were once introduced to him at a dull party.) He's just come along. He's seen this block-long line and he's spotted you. He's nice and dry. He asks you if you would be kind enough to buy his ticket. How do you answer?

(1) "Ahhh, get yer own ticket. Geddonda enda de line!", (2) "I really don't think it would be fair to the others on line if I bought your ticket, since you just came.", (3) "You sure are lucky! I'd be delighted!", or (4) "It'll cost you a buck, bud!" ☐

(B) It is after the movie. It is pouring. You've left before the end of the picture because you know how brutal it is getting a cab on this kind of night. You're first on line at the hack stand. You wait. No cab. You're soaked. The line behind you gets longer. Finally, a cab appears. As it pulls up, you feel a tap on your shoulder. Same guy! He's dry as bone. (Been waiting under the marquee.) He asks if he can share your cab. How do you answer?

(1) "Ahhh, get yer own cab. Geddonda enda de line!", (2) "I really don't think it would be fair to the others on line if I let you share my cab.", (3) "You certainly are lucky. I'd be delighted.", or (4) "It'll cost you a fin, chum!" ☐

(C) You have a terrible toothache. It's Saturday afternoon and the Dentist's office is jammed. You sit down to wait. Finally, after three hours, you're next. The door opens. You guessed it! Same guy! He taps you on the shoulder, and explains that he is in a big hurry. (He's got a date in twenty minutes.) Would you mind if he went in before you? The office is jammed with people who came in after you. How do you answer?

(1) "Ahhh, geddonda enda de line!", (2) "It wouldn't be fair to the others.", (3) "Certainly! Glad to help out.", or (4) "It'll cost you a ten spot, Mac." ☐

If your score is 3 (three 1's), you have extremely poor diction. If you score 6 (three 2's), you see to be fair-minded. If you score 9 (three 3's), you seem to be open-minded. If you score 12 (three 4's), you seem to be business-minded.

FOREIGN MOVIES

HAVE YOU EVER NOTICED THE COMPLETELY DIFFERENT STATE OF MIND WITH WHICH PRODUCERS OF **FOREIGN FILMS** EACH APPROACH THE VERY SAME SUBJECT? YOU **HAVEN'T!?** WELL, NEVER MIND **NECKIN'** UP THERE IN THE **BALCONY** SO MUCH AND PAY A LITTLE **ATTENTION** TO THE **SCREEN!** ANYWAY, TAKE FOR INSTANCE **THIS** SIMPLE LITTLE SCENE! IT'S FAMILIAR TO **ALL** MOVIE-GOERS! IT SHOWS, IN ONE BRIEF DRAMATIC MOMENT, A WOMAN'S SPIRITED LOYALTY TO THE MAN SHE LOVES:

JOHN, SOMETHING SEEMS TO BE **BOTHERING** YOU!

WHATEVER **GAVE** YOU **THAT** IDEA, MARSHA?

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING SO **MOODY** THESE PAST FEW DAYS!

EVERYTHING'S FINE! **REALLY!**

JOHN! THIS IS YOUR **WIFE** YOU'RE TALKING TO! SOMETHING **IS** BOTHERING YOU! AND I HAVE THE RIGHT TO **KNOW!**

ALL RIGHT, THEN! YOU **ASKED** FOR IT! SO I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU **STRAIGHT!**

I'VE **LOST MY JOB** AT THE ADVERTISING AGENCY!

IT'S BEEN OVER A **WEEK** NOW!

WAS I **AWFULLY SELFISH** IN NOT TELLING YOU **SOONER?**... IN WANTING TO **HOLD ON** TO OUR HAPPINESS JUST A **FEW** DAYS LONGER?

MARSHA, YOU DESERVE SOMEONE **MORE SUCCESSFUL** THAN MYSELF! YOU'VE YOUR WHOLE **LIFE** AHEAD OF YOU! I WANT IT TO **BE** A **HAPPY** ONE FOR YOU!

JOHN!

IF YOU **WANT** A DIVORCE, I WON'T STAND IN YOUR **WAY!**

JOHN, ARE YOU **REALLY** FOOLISH ENOUGH TO BELIEVE THAT I MARRIED YOU JUST FOR YOUR **JOB?!** I MARRIED YOU FOR **BETTER** OR FOR **WORSE**... AND I'LL **TAKE** IT, WHICHEVER WAY IT COMES!

Y-YOU MEAN YOU'RE **STILL WILLING** TO **STICK BY ME!?**

OF COURSE, MY DARLING!

IT WILL BE **ROUGH GOING** AT FIRST!

WHO CARES!? OUR **LOVE** IS THE ONLY THING THAT **MATTERS!**

MARSHA, DARLING, IT WILL MEAN A **WHOLE NEW LIFE**... A **NEW CAREER!** TIMES ARE GOING TO GET A LOT **WORSE** BEFORE THEY GET **BETTER!** BUT, I **KNOW**... I'M **POSITIVE**... WE'LL **SEE IT THROUGH,** AS LONG AS WE HAVE **EACH OTHER!**

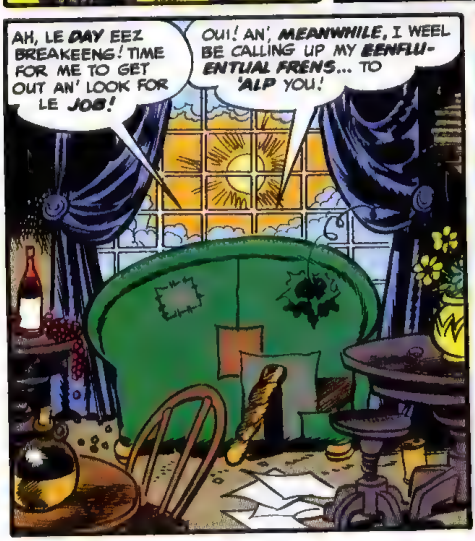
OH, JOHN...

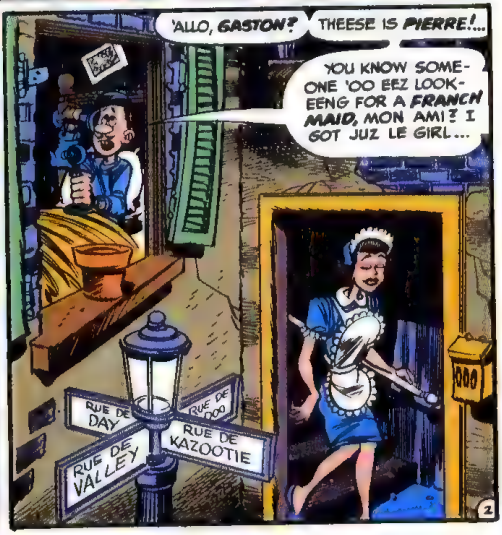
CORNY, HUH? KNOW HOW THE FRENCH MOVIE-MAKERS WOULD HANDLE THAT VERY SAME SCENE? WHY, IN THE SAME JOYOUS, EBULLIENT MANNER IN WHICH THEY TREAT ALL MATTERS OF THE HEART! THE FILM WOULD FAIRLY BOUNCE WITH TYPICAL GALLIC EXHUBERANCE AND GAIETY! LIKE THIS, F'RINSTANCE...

PIERRE! ZOMETHEENG SEEM TO BE TROUBLING YOU!
'OW OBSER-VANT YOU ARE, MON PETITE SOUFFLE!
YOU ARR NOT YOUR USUAL JOYOUS, EBULLIENT SELF LATELY! WOT EEZ BOTHERING YOU, MAN AMOUR?
I DID NOT THEENK DAT YOU WOULD TAKE LE NOTEECE!
I'AV LE RIGHT TO KNOW! AM I NOT YOUR WIFE?

YOU ARR RIGHT! I CANNOT HIDE EET ANY LONGAIR!
OUI! EET EES MOS SERIOUS!
I'AV LOSS LE JOB AT LE POST-CARD FACTORY!
'OW WEEL WE LEEV?
'OW WEEL WE EET?
QUELL TRAGEDIE, MAI MON?
KEES KEES KEES

BUT, DO NOT FRET, MON CHERIE! I WEEL FIND A JOB, SECOND THEENG TOMORROW MORNNEENG!
BON! AN' I WEEL USE ALL MY BENFLU-ENCE TO 'ALP YOU IN YOUR NEW CAREER, MON PRECIOUS!
IT WEEL BE A NEW LIFE!
IT WILL BE A NEW CAREER!


AH, LE DAY EEZ BREAKEENG! TIME FOR ME TO GET OUT AN' LOOK FOR LE JOB!
OUI! AN', MEANWHILE, I WEEL BE CALLING UP MY BENFLU-ENTIAL FRENS... TO 'ALP YOU!


'ALLO, GASTON?
THEESE IS PIERRE!...
YOU KNOW SOME-ONE 'OO EEZ LOOK-EENG FOR A FRANCH MAID, MON AMI? I GOT JUZ LE GIRL...
RUE DE DAY
RUE DE KAZOOTIE
RUE DE VALLEY
1000
2

AND THEN THERE'S THE **BRITISH!** AH, THE BRITISH! **THEY** WOULD TELL THE STORY WITH TYPICAL TIGHT-LIPPED RESERVE. THERE'D BE **VERY LITTLE SHOW OF EMOTION...ABSOLUTELY NO HYSTERICS...** AND **LOTS OF TEA!** ALL VERY **GENTLEMANLY,** DON'T Y'KNOW. CARE TO **LOOK IN? BULLY! SHALL WE?** AFTER **YOU,** OL' THING...

I **SAY! REGGIE!** YOU **ARE** HOME **UNEXPECTEDLY EARLY** FROM YOUR LABORS!

QUITE SO! SODDY TO BARGE IN! DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD COMPANY! BEEN **SACKED,** Y'KNOW!

BLAHSTED **BEARD** FELL OFF WHILE IN THE MIDST OF POSING FOR A **SCHWEPPES** ADVERTISEMENT!

NO REASON TO **CARRY ON** SO, REGGIE!

MEANS WE'VE SOME TEDDIBLY **LEAN YEARS** AHEAD, OLD GIRL!

YOU **KNOW** I CAHN'T **STAND** IT WHEN YOU LOSE **CONTROL** OF YOURSELF LIKE THIS!

I **RAWTHER** IMAGINE THIS ABOUT WASHES UP OUR **MARRIAGE,** WOT!? I'VE 'ALF A MIND TO BLAWST MY **BRAINS** OUT!

NOW, **DO** LET'S NOT **BE CHILDISH** ABOUT THIS, REGGIE!

PITY I'M SUCH A **COWARD!***

I MARRIED YOU FOR **BETTER** OR FOR **WORSTERSHIRE** AND, BY JOVE I'LL NOT LET A TRIVIAL THING LIKE **THIS** BREAK UP OUR HOME!

* NOT **YOU,** NOEL! — EDS.

DO YOU **REALLY MEAN THAT,** OLD SOCK? **DEUCEDLY SPORTING** OF YOU TO STICK BY ME THROUGH THIS WHOLE **BEASTLY MESS!**

OH, THE **DEVIL** WITH THE HUNTING LODGE!

YOU ARE ALL I NEED IN LIFE, OLD FOOT!

IT WILL MEAN GIVING UP THE **SERVANTS,** OF COURSE...AND WE'LL MOST LIKELY LOSE THE **HUNTING LODGE** AT NOTTINGHAM-ON-THE BILGEWATER!

JUST BEING **CLOSE** TO YOU LIKE THIS IS **QUITE ENOUGH** FOR **ME!**

IT WILL MEAN GROWING A **REAL BEARD** THIS TIME, Y'KNOW!

I SHAWN'T FIND IT **TOO DIFFICULT,** REGGIE DEAR... AS LONG AS WE CAN AFFORD **TEA!**

MONTHS AND MONTHS OF CAREFULLY WATERING AND NURTURING EACH LITTLE **FOLLICLE** AS IT APPEARS!

BUT WITH **YOU** HERE AT MY SIDE LIKE THIS, I **KNOW** I CAN DO IT, MARGARET, OLD GIRL!

NOW CONTRAST *THAT* WITH THE FIERY EXCITABLE *ITALIAN* WAY OF DOING MOVIES. *THEIR* FILMS PRACTICALLY *REEK* WITH EARTHLY REALISM AND UNINHIBITED ANIMAL VITALITY! THEIR VERSION OF THE SCENE WOULD GO SOMETHING LIKE THIS:

HEY, CUMPARI!
I'MA GOTTA SOME BAD NEWS, MARI-OOCH!
WHATSA MATTA, YOU COME-A HOM FROM WORK SO EARLY!?
THE BEEZANESS, SHE'SA FOLD UP LIKE-A THE COLD LASAGNA!
AH?

I'M A JOOST STOP-A ONE-A MINOOT FOR A SUBMARINE SANDAWICH... AN' A SOOMBODY, SHE'SA STEAL THE POOSHACART WITH ALL-A THE PIZZA PIES!
YOU MEAN-A WE NOT-A GONNA BE ABLE TO HAVE LOTSA BAMBINOS NOW... LIKE-A WE PLAN!?

MAMA MIA! I'MA THE BEEG-A FAT FAILURE, HOW YOU SAY!
EH!? WHAT'SA MATTER FROM-A YOU? YOU THEENK I'MA MARRY YOU FOR YOU POOSHACART!?
I'MA GONNA KILL-A MYSELF SO'SA YOU CAN MARRY A REECH, YOUNG-A, HANDSOME MAN WITH-A HIS OWN POOSHACART!
I'MA MARRY YOU CAUSE I'MA LOVE YOU!

HEY, GOOMBAH! WE GONNA BUILD ANOTHER-A POOSHACART! A GREAT-A BEEG-A ONE!
MARI-OOCH! YOU MEAN-A...
AN'A I'MA GONNA HELP-A YOU BUILD IT!
AN'A WE GONNA HAVE LOTSA AN'A LOTSA BAMBINOS!

ON THE OTHER HAND, THE **JAPANESE** GO IN FOR MORE **STYLIZED POETIC IMAGERY,** BOTH IN THEIR DIALOGUE AND IN THEIR PICTORIAL ARRANGEMENT. A CERTAIN **PHILOSOPHICAL SERENITY** PERMEATES EACH INDIVIDUAL SCENE, WITH MORE EMPHASIS ON DELIGHTFUL **WORD-IMAGES** THAN ON ACTION. LIKE **THIS,** PLEASE TO BEGIN...

OOLONG NOTICE **FAINT FROWN** PASS OVER FACE OF HONORABLE HUSBAND... LIKE **DISTANT CLOUD** OVER **HIGH FUJIYAMA!**

AH, SO! WE JAPANESE VERY CLEVER AT **IMITATION!**

BUT, MUCH BESIDE, HAVE **LOSE HONORABLE JOB** IN SUKIYAKI RESTAURANT!

HONORABLE BOSS SAY ME **TALK** TOO MUCH!

AH, SO! THIS NEWS **PAIN** OOLONG LIKE **SHARP THORN** PAIN SOFT PAW OF **KITTEN!**

HONORABLE BOSS SAY ME MAKE **TOO MUCH YAKI**... AND **NOT ENOUGH SUKI!**

LIKE **CRUEL CLAW OF EAGLE** PAIN TIGHTLY CLUTCHED **FIELD MOUSE!**

LIKE **BAND-AID** PAIN WHEN TORE FROM **HAIRY CHEST!**

IF HONORABLE WIFE WISH TO **LEAVE** HONORABLE HUSBAND AS **BUTTERFLY** LEAVE **COCOON** IN SPRING, IS FREE TO **DO SO!**

HONORABLE HUSBAND IS **TOO INDULGENT** WITH UNDESERVING OOLONG!

OOLONG **WILL** CLING TO HONORABLE HUSBAND AS **STRIPE** CLING TO **MIGHTY TIGER!**

OOLONG **STILL BEAUTIFUL!** CAN CATCH **YOUNG* HUSBAND** AS **DRAGONFLY** CATCH **DROWSY BEETLE!**

MADE IN JAPAN

*EGG-FOO, THAT IS!-ED.

OOLONG WILL CLING TO HONORABLE HUSBAND AS **PILOT-FISH** CLING TO **SHARK!**

HONORABLE HUSBAND **WARN** OOLONG AS **THUNDER** WARN OF **APPROACHING STORM!**

OOLONG WILL CLING TO HONORABLE HUSBAND AS **LAST LEAF** CLING TO **TREE** IN FALL!

WILL BE BUFFETED BY ILL FORTUNE AS **STRAW** WILL BE BUFFETED BY **WIND!**

WILL CLING TO HONORABLE HUSBAND AS **HAIRY CATERPILLAR** CLING TO **SWAYING BRANCH!**

UUCCCHH!

WILL CLING TO HONORABLE HUSBAND AS **JASMINE VINE** CLING TO SIDE OF **HOUSE!**

...CLING TO HUSBAND AS **OATMEAL** CLING TO **RIBS!**

...AS **GRAVY STAIN** CLING TO **SILK KIMONO!**

...AS...

PLEASE TO BREAK **JIU-JITSU** HOLD ON HONORABLE HUSBAND, OR OOLONG WILL RECEIVE **SHOT IN HEAD** AS **BAMBOO ROOF** RECEIVE PELT OF **DRIVING RAIN!**

IN OTHER WORDS... **GET OFF MY BACK!**

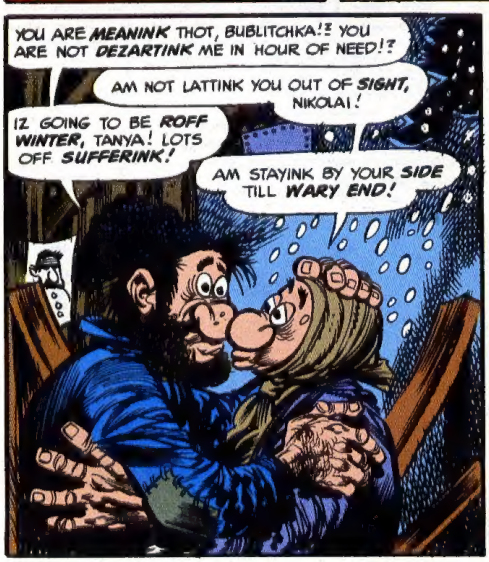
HONORABLE UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE

"SUFFERINK" IS THE WATCHWORD IN THE RUSSIAN APPROACH. SOMBER LIGHTING, DEEPLY ETCHED FACES, AND SOLEMN MINOR-KEY BACKGROUND MUSIC ALL COMBINE TO SET THE MISERABLE MOOD OF TRAGEDY, FUTILITY AND IMPENDING DOOM IN THEIR RELEASES. SELF-PITY PREVADES THE ATMOSPHERE LIKE THE STEAM ROOM IN A RUSSIAN BATH. THIS IS THE MOSCOW VERSION OF THE VERY SAME SCENE. OF COURSE, THEY DID IT FIRST!...

NIKOLA! VOT IS WRONG!? YOU ARE COMING HOME SO LATE FROM SAWLT MINES IN SIBERIA!
DA, TANYA! IS SUCH NIZE EVENING, AM DECIDING TO WALK!
AWLSO, I'M NOT HAVING FIVE KOPEKS* CARFARE!
*ABOUT ELEVEN CENTS! — EDS.

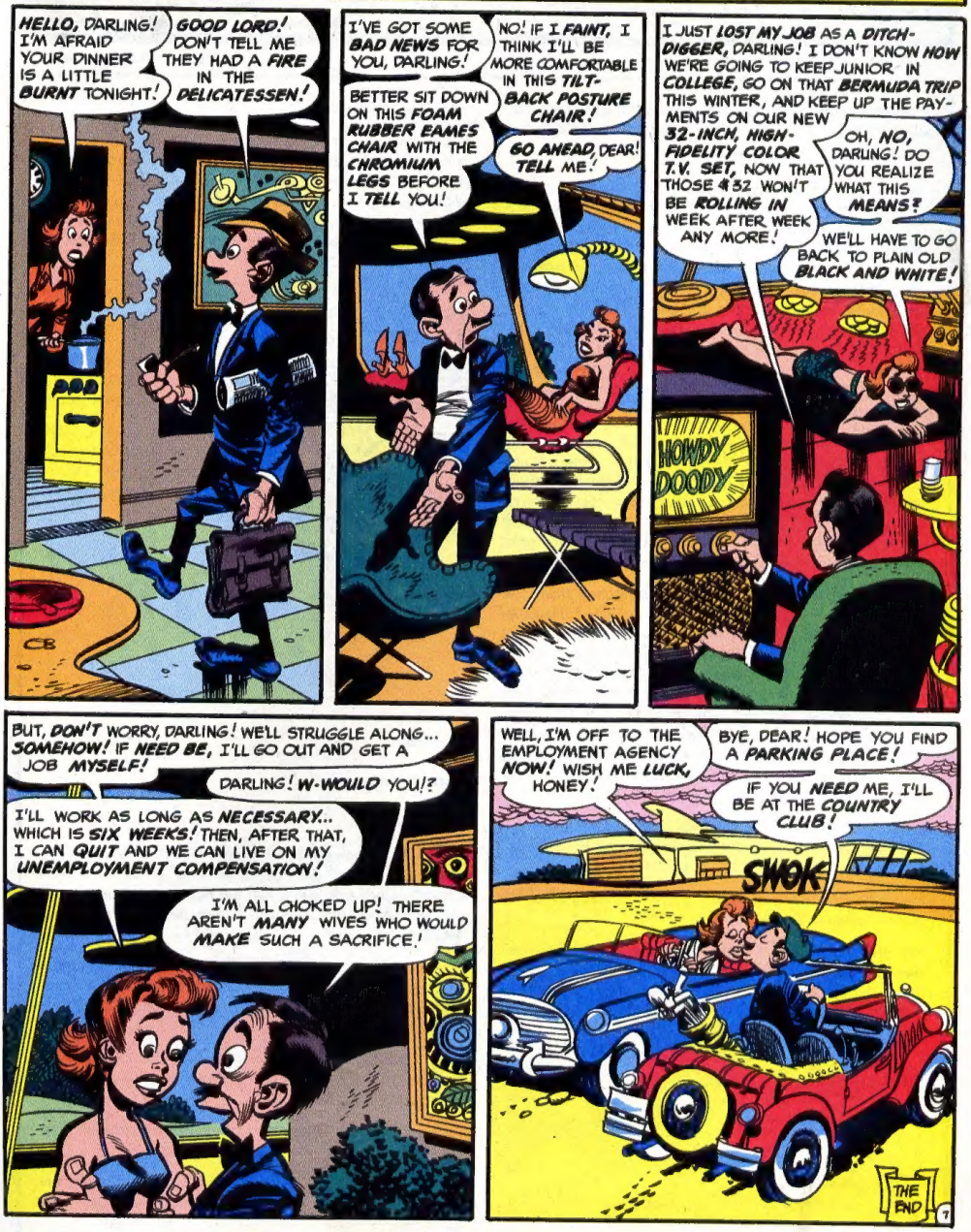
BUBLITCHKA, IZ BAD NOOSE I AM BRINGINK! THE FOREMAN IS FIRINK ME FOR NOT GOINK IN ON RAWSHIN ROOLETTE POOL!
TANYA IZ NOTICINK A SORTEN FORCED GAIETY IN YOUR MONNER, TONIGHT, NIKOLAI!
I'M NEEDINK RAWSHIN ROOLETTE LIKE I'M NEEDINK HOLE IN HADD!

I CON NO LONGER GIFF YOU THE LOXURIES OFF LIFE, TANYA!
IZ TALKINK FOOLISH, NIKOLAI!
IZ BADDER YOU ARE LEAVINK ME FOR YONG SUCKSESSFOOL PROLETARIAT!
IZ OLD RAWSHIN PROVERB... "A BIRD IN THE HAND IS WORTH TWO IN THE BORSHT!"
FSST


YOU ARE MEANINK THOT, BUBLITCHKA!? YOU ARE NOT DEZARTINK ME IN HOUR OF NEED!?
AM NOT LATTINK YOU OUT OF SIGHT, NIKOLAI!
IZ GOING TO BE ROFF WINTER, TANYA! LOTS OFF SUFFERINK!
AM STAYINK BY YOUR SIDE TILL WARY END!

UND NOW IZ WARY END FOR YOU, COMRADE HUSBAN'!
IS WONDARFOOL IDEA, TANYA!
GLORIOUS PEOPLES GOVERNMENT IZ PAYING 20,000 RUBLES* CASH FOR AVERY ENEMY OF REGIME IZ BEING TORNED IN!
NOW I'M BEIN' ABLE WRITE BOOK OND MAKE LOTS MONNIES!
AM CALLINK BOOK, "I WAS TROPPED BY N.K.V.D. IN B.V.D."!
HIP!... HOP!... HIP!... HOP!
NKVD HQ
*ABOUT ELEVEN CENTS! — EDS.

AND NOW, LAST BUT NOT LEAST, WE COME TO THE **AMERICAN** VERSION, IN WHICH THE EMPHASIS IS PLACED ON ***MATERIAL POSSESSIONS***. EVER NOTICE THAT NO MATTER HOW MENIAL THE JOB THE HEAD OF THE HOUSEHOLD HAS IN A HOLLYWOOD PICTURE, THE MOTION PICTURE CODE GUARANTEES EVERY SCREEN FAMILY A $28,000 RANCH HOUSE, TWO CARS IN THE TWO-CAR GARAGE, AND A CHICKEN IN EVERY POTRZEBIE? LIKE F'RINSTANCE...


HELLO, DARLING! I'M AFRAID YOUR DINNER IS A LITTLE BURNT TONIGHT!
GOOD LORD! DON'T TELL ME THEY HAD A FIRE IN THE DELICATESSEN!
I'VE GOT SOME BAD NEWS FOR YOU, DARLING!
NO! IF I FAINT, I THINK I'LL BE MORE COMFORTABLE IN THIS TILT-BACK POSTURE CHAIR!
BETTER SIT DOWN ON THIS FOAM RUBBER EAMES CHAIR WITH THE CHROMIUM LEGS BEFORE I TELL YOU!
GO AHEAD, DEAR! TELL ME!
I JUST LOST MY JOB AS A DITCH-DIGGER, DARLING! I DON'T KNOW HOW WE'RE GOING TO KEEP JUNIOR IN COLLEGE, GO ON THAT BERMUDA TRIP THIS WINTER, AND KEEP UP THE PAYMENTS ON OUR NEW 32-INCH, HIGH-FIDELITY COLOR T.V. SET, NOW THAT THOSE $32 WON'T BE ROLLING IN WEEK AFTER WEEK ANY MORE!
OH, NO, DARLING! DO YOU REALIZE WHAT THIS MEANS?
WE'LL HAVE TO GO BACK TO PLAIN OLD BLACK AND WHITE!
HOWDY DOODY
BUT, DON'T WORRY, DARLING! WE'LL STRUGGLE ALONG... SOMEHOW! IF NEED BE, I'LL GO OUT AND GET A JOB MYSELF!
DARLING! W-WOULD YOU!?
I'LL WORK AS LONG AS NECESSARY... WHICH IS SIX WEEKS! THEN, AFTER THAT, I CAN QUIT AND WE CAN LIVE ON MY UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION!
I'M ALL CHOKED UP! THERE AREN'T MANY WIVES WHO WOULD MAKE SUCH A SACRIFICE!
WELL, I'M OFF TO THE EMPLOYMENT AGENCY NOW! WISH ME LUCK, HONEY!
BYE, DEAR! HOPE YOU FIND A PARKING PLACE!
IF YOU NEED ME, I'LL BE AT THE COUNTRY CLUB!
SWOK
THE END
7